

Village of Cottage Grove
POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Daniel L. Layber
Chief of Police

March 13, 2020

Village Response to Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

There have been confirmed cases of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) in Dane County. You can read the press release from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services here:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/news/releases/031220.htm>

Responding to COVID-19 requires all of us working together:

Steps we are asking employees and citizens to take now:

- Stay home when you are sick
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Go online and request an absentee ballot by mail for the April 7 election. We are strongly encouraging residents vote by mail for this election.
<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/VoteAbsentee>
- Access Village services online or by phone instead of in person when feasible. You can request permits, fill out license applications, pay taxes, etc. on our website
<http://www.village.cottage-grove.wi.us/>
- Follow the Village of Cottage Grove, Cottage Grove, WI Police, or Cottage Grove Parks & Recreation on Facebook. Any critical information or information on event cancellation, building closures etc. will be provided through those channels and posted on the Village website.

Steps we are taking as a Village:

- Village Officials are working with the Dane County Public Health Department and the Dane County Emergency Management Department. The Public Health Department is the best source for local information on COVID-19: <https://www.publichealthmdc.com/>
- The Fire Department, Police Department, DeerGrove EMS, other first responders and all Village Departments are making plans and preparing. These departments have been given personal protective equipment and have policies in place to deal with potentially effected individuals
- We will follow the guidelines of the State and County Public Health Departments on public gatherings. We will keep the public informed of any cancellations on social media and our website.

- We are planning to increase the frequency of cleaning of common areas, door handles, railings etc. at all Village buildings to make them as safe as possible.
- The safety of our citizens is our highest priority. We are committed to maintaining essential public safety services throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to protect our citizens, the vulnerable populations we serve and our employees, we ask that if you need to call 9-1-1 you tell the dispatchers if you have been diagnosed with or have reason to believe you have been exposed to COVID-19. This information is subject to the Health Information Privacy and Portability Act (HIPPA) and will be protected accordingly.

This is a rapid changing and evolving situation. In coordination with the Dane County Public Health Department and the Dane County Emergency Management Department we will work to keep you updated on the situation in Cottage Grove.

Kindly,

Lt. Matt Wagner

Emergency Government Director
Cottage Grove Police Department
Cottage Grove, WI 53527